Draw a Side-View Ox: Body Mass, Horn Curves, and Hoof Placement

Original tasks 1, 2, 3 / complete keys

Task 1

Draw a side-view ox on a ground line. Use a body oval 10 cm long and 5 cm tall, a head block about 1.7 cm tall, and horns about 0.85 cm tall. Place all hooves on the ground line.

Answer: A completed drawing with a 10:5 body oval, a head block about 1.7 cm tall, horns about 0.85 cm tall, and four hooves touching the ground line.

Reason: The body oval is 2:1, the head block is about one-third of the 5 cm body height (about 1.7 cm), and the horns are about half the head height (about 0.85 cm), matching the lesson guides.

Check: Measure the oval and head block with a ruler. Check that every hoof's bottom edge touches the ground line.

Task 2

A drawing has a body oval 6 cm long and 6 cm tall, horns pointing straight up, and hooves 0.5 cm below the ground line. List three fixes.

Answer: Stretch the oval to about 12 cm long or 3 cm tall to reach 2:1; redraw the horns with an outward-then-upward curve; move the hooves up so their bottom edges touch the ground line.

Reason: The round oval makes the ox look pig-like, straight horns do not read as ox horns, and sunken hooves break the ground contact.

Check: Re-measure the oval ratio, trace the horn curve, and confirm hoof contact with the ground line.

Task 3

Draw an ox with a body oval 9 cm long and 4.5 cm tall. Add a shadow oval 7 cm long and 1 cm tall under the body. Check that the shadow touches the hooves.

Answer: A drawing with a 2:1 body oval and a shadow oval whose top edge meets the hooves.

Reason: The shadow supports the ground line and helps the ox look grounded rather than floating.

Check: Measure the body oval ratio and confirm the shadow touches at least two hooves.

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Original tasks 4 / complete keys

Task 4

Redraw your ox from the first exercise, but make the neck shorter and thicker. Keep the body oval and horn curves the same. Note one change you made.

Answer: A revised drawing with a shorter, thicker neck and the same body oval and horns. The noted change should describe the neck adjustment.

Reason: A short, thick neck is a key ox feature and helps the head block connect naturally to the body.

Check: Compare the two drawings side by side and confirm the neck is shorter and thicker while the oval and horns remain consistent.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Body oval is clearly longer than tall, roughly 2:1, and sits above the ground line.
- [ ] Head block is connected by a short, thick neck and includes a muzzle wedge.
- [ ] Horns show a smooth outward-then-upward curve and are roughly symmetrical.
- [ ] Four legs are present, with hooves flat on the ground line.
- [ ] A simple shadow touches the hooves and supports the ground line.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted if the ox reads clearly and proportions remain believable.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?